

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **amend** claims 2, 12, 14, 19-21, 24-26, and 60-61 as follows. Please **add** new claims 62-64. Please **cancel** claims 7, 8, and 32-38 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 1. (Cancelled)

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule of the *Arabidopsis thaliana* genome comprising from about 30 to 300 nucleotide residues of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5272, or ~~complements thereof~~ about 30 to 300 nucleotide residues of a complement of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5272.

Claims 3 to 5. (Cancelled)

Claim 6. (Original) The substantially purified nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2, wherein said nucleic acid molecule further comprises nucleic acid sequences comprising one or more of a promoter region, regulatory region or intron region or parts of said regions.

Claims 7 to 11. (Cancelled)

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A substantially purified first nucleic acid molecule which is ~~homologous~~ at least 98% identical to a second nucleic acid molecule comprising from about 30 to 300 nucleotide residues of: (a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5272 or complements thereof (b) the complement of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5272, ~~wherein at least 90% of the nucleic acid sequence of said substantially purified first nucleic acid molecule is identical to said second nucleic acid molecule.~~

Claim 13. (Original) The substantially purified first nucleic acid molecule according to claim 12, wherein said first nucleic acid sequence is 100% identical to a nucleic acid sequence of a non-*Arabidopsis thaliana* homologue.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) The substantially purified first nucleic acid molecule according to claim 12, wherein at least ~~98~~99% of the sequence of said substantially purified nucleic acid molecule is identical to said second nucleic acid molecule.

Claims 15 to 18. (Cancelled)

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant cell ~~or organism cell~~ or plant comprising an exogenous nucleic acid molecule which comprises:

- (a) a promoter region which functions in said cell to cause the production of a mRNA molecule; which is linked to
- (b) a structural nucleic acid molecule which is ~~homologous or complementary~~ at least 98% identical to the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2, which is linked to
- (c) a 3' non-translated sequence that functions in said cell to cause termination of transcription and addition of polyadenylated ribonucleotides to a 3' end of said mRNA molecule.

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant cell or ~~organism~~plant according to claim 19, ~~which is selected from the group consisting of a plant cell, plant, mammalian cell, mammal, fish cell, fish, bird cell, bird, bacterial cell and fungal cell and~~ wherein said mRNA encodes a protein in said cell.

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant cell or ~~organism~~plant according to claim 19, wherein said structural nucleic acid molecule is a transcribed nucleic acid molecule with a transcribed strand and a nontranscribed strand and the transcribed strand specifically hybridizes to an mRNA molecule.

Claims 22 and 23. (Cancelled)

Claim 24. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant cell or ~~organism~~plant comprising an exogenous nucleic acid molecule which comprises:

- (a) a promoter region which functions in said cell to cause the production of an mRNA molecule wherein said promoter nucleic acid molecule comprises from about 30 to 300 nucleotide residues of: (a) SEQ ID NO: 5272 or (b) the complements thereof; which is linked to
- (b) a structural nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein or peptide; which is linked to
- (c) a 3' non-translated nucleic acid sequence that functions in said cell to cause termination of transcription and addition of polyadenylated ribonucleotides to a 3' end of said mRNA molecule.

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant cell or ~~organism~~plant according to claim 24, ~~which is selected from the group consisting of a plant cell, plant, mammalian cell, mammal, fish cell, fish, bird cell, bird, bacterial cell and fungal cell and~~ wherein said mRNA encodes a protein in said cell.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended) A transformed plant cell or organism comprising an exogenous nucleic acid molecule which comprises a structural nucleic acid sequence which expresses an mRNA which is complementary to and hybridizes to at least about 30 to 300 nucleotide residues ~~part~~ of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5272 ~~and homolog thereof~~.

Claims 27 to 59. (Cancelled)

Claim 60. (Currently Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule of the *Arabidopsis thaliana* genome comprising at least about 30 nucleotide residues of either SEQ ID NO: 5272 or ~~complement thereof~~ at least about 30 nucleotide residues of a complement of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5272.

Claim 61. (Currently Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule of the *Arabidopsis thaliana* genome comprising at least from about 30 to 300 nucleotide residues of ~~either~~ SEQ ID NO: 5272 or complement thereof at least from about 30 to 300 nucleotide residues of a complement of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5272.

Claim 62. (New) A transformed plant cell or plant comprising an exogenous nucleic acid molecule which comprises:

(a) a promoter region which functions in said cell to cause the production of a mRNA molecule; which is linked to

(b) a structural nucleic acid molecule which comprises a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 12, which is linked to

(c) a 3' non-translated sequence that functions in said cell to cause termination of transcription and addition of polyadenylated ribonucleotides to a 3' end of said mRNA molecule.

Claim 63. (New) A transformed plant cell or plant comprising an exogenous nucleic acid molecule which comprises:

- (a) a promoter region which functions in said cell to cause the production of a mRNA molecule; which is linked to
- (b) a structural nucleic acid molecule which is at least 99% identical to a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2, which is linked to
- (c) a 3' non-translated sequence that functions in said cell to cause termination of transcription and addition of polyadenylated ribonucleotides to a 3' end of said mRNA molecule.

Claim 64. (New) A transformed plant cell or plant comprising an exogenous nucleic acid molecule which comprises:

- (a) a promoter region which functions in said cell to cause the production of a mRNA molecule; which is linked to
- (b) a structural nucleic acid molecule which comprises a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 14, which is linked to

(c) a 3' non-translated sequence that functions in said cell to cause termination of transcription and addition of polyadenylated ribonucleotides to a 3' end of said mRNA molecule.